## **CLAIMS**

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- 1. Connection architecture for xDSL networks with a metal port, wherein the voice signal (2) is obtained from the switching exchange (1), reaches the horizontal terminal block (13), continues to the intermediate distributor (7) and from there to the assembly formed by the filter or splitter (4) and the DSLAM (3), which is responsible for supplying the high-speed digital signal xDSL (5) from a network (9), there being emitted from this assembly a combined voice and data signal (6) which reaches the intermediate distributor (7), and is transmitted once more to a vertical terminal block (14) and a subsequent separation filter (17), thus reaching the user either on the telephone (11) or on the computer (12), characterised in that the intermediate distributor (7) or the vertical terminal block (14) has a connection element which has cut-off and test contacts, and the metal port block is disposed on the connection element itself of the intermediate distributor (7) or on the vertical terminal block (14), thus making it possible to obtain the metal port signal which is subsequently conveyed to the test rack (10), without needing to disconnect or reconnect any bridge or cable of this architecture.
- 2. Terminal block for use in the connection architecture according to claim 1, characterised in that it makes it possible to obtain the metal port by being disposed on the terminal block of the intermediate distributor (7), such that the said terminal or block (16) has on its base a set of pairs of contacts (16.1), which are disposed corresponding to the cavities which are provided in the terminal block of the intermediate distributor, corresponding to the contacts which transmit the combined voice signal and high-speed signal xDSL.

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3. Terminal block according to claim 2, characterised in that the pairs of contacts (16.1) of the terminal or port block (16) are disposed corresponding to the cavities corresponding to the contacts for the voice signal which exist on the terminal blocks of the intermediate distributor (7).

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4. Terminal block according to claim 1, characterised in that it makes it possible to obtain the metal port by being disposed on the vertical terminal block (14), such that the said terminal or block (16) has on its base a set of pairs of contacts (16.1) which are disposed corresponding to the cavities which exist in the terminal block of the vertical distributor

- (14), corresponding to the contacts of the combined signal.
- 5. Terminal block according to any preceding claim, characterised in that it has the means necessary to be connected to the adjacent terminal blocks by means of a bus.

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- 6. Connection architecture according to claim 1 incorporating a terminal block according to any of claims 2 to 5.
- 7. Connection architecture according to claim 1, characterized in that the connecting block (16), through which the metallic access to the intermediate distribution frame (7) or the vertical distribution frame (14) is made, is materialized in a plurality of boards (16'), containing their corresponding components such as relays and associated electronics, each one of these boards having contact pins or plugs on their lower edge (19), to be housed in the cavities for the patch and test or protection area of the distribution frame (7-14) strip.

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- 8. Connection architecture according to claim 7, characterised in that said boards (16') also have connectors (20) for interconnection thereof and/or for connection to the cartridge (16) in their array.
- 9. Connection architecture according to claim 8, which also has connectors (17) to interconnect the cartridges in array, with the aid of buses (18).
  - 10. Connection architecture according to any of claims 7 to 9, characterized in that said boards (16') are configured as cartridges optionally having lids, which, when coupling with and uncoupling from the housing (16) of the cartridge, configure a closed outer surface which protects its inner components.
  - 11. Connection architecture according to any of claims 7 to 10, characterized in that said boards are laminated, and/or incorporate their components on one or both sides, and/or are protected within a housing defined by the cartridge, optionally having an upper or folding lid.

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